

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A method for manufacturing an endovascular graft, or section thereof, comprising:
 - a. disposing a first layer of fusible material onto a shape forming member;
 - b. disposing a second layer of fusible material onto at least a portion of the first layer forming an overlapped portion of the first and second layers of fusible material;
 - c. forming a seam in the layers of fusible material to form at least one inflatable channel in the overlapped portion of the first and second layers of fusible material;
 - d. expanding the inflatable channel; and
 - e. fixing the fusible material that forms the channel while the channel is in an expanded state.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising disposing adhesive or melt-processible material on the first layer of fusible material prior to disposing the second layer of fusible material.
3. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein the adhesive or melt-processible material is selected from the group comprising perfluoroalkoxy and fluorinated ethylene propylene.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the fusible material forming the inflatable channel is fixed by sintering.
5. (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein the sintering process comprises bringing the material of the inflatable channel to a temperature of about 335 to about 380 degrees Celsius.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein third, fourth, fifth, and sixth additional layers of fusible material are disposed on the shape forming member after the step of disposing the second layer, and the seam is created in the layers such that the inflatable channel is formed by the seam between the third and fourth layers.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the fusible material comprises ePTFE.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the shape forming member comprises a cylindrically shaped member and the overlapped portion comprises a substantially tubular member.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Original) A method for manufacturing an endovascular graft, or section thereof, comprising:

- a. disposing a first layer of fusible material onto a shape forming member;
- b. positioning at least one expandable member onto the first layer of fusible material;
- c. disposing at least one additional layer of fusible material over the first layer of fusible material and at least a portion of the expandable member;
- d. forming a seam between the first and at least one additional layer of fusible material adjacent the expandable member to secure the expandable member to the first and at least one additional layer;
- e. selectively forming a seam in the layers of fusible material to form at least one inflatable channel in the first and at least one additional layers of fusible material; and
- f. expanding the inflatable channel and fixing the material that forms the inflatable channel when the channel is in an expanded state.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10 further comprising disposing a melt-processible or adhesive material on or adjacent the expandable member and first layer of fusible material prior to placing the additional layer of fusible material onto the first layer.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the adhesive material is selected from the group comprising perfluoroalkoxy and fluorinated ethylene propylene.

13. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein the expandable member comprises an expandable stent.

14. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein the expandable member comprises an expandable connector ring configured to be secured to an expandable stent.

15. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein injection of pressurized fluid into the inflatable channel is used to expand the inflatable channel.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein a mold is used to constrain the fusible material during expansion of the inflatable channel.

17. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein the fusible material of the inflatable channel is fixed by sintering while the inflatable channel is in an expanded state.

18. (Original) A method for manufacturing an endovascular graft, or section thereof, comprising the steps of:

- a. positioning at least one expandable member between the layers of an overlapped portion of a first layer of fusible material and a second layer of fusible material;
- b. forming a seam adjacent the expandable member so to mechanically capture the member within the first and second layers of fusible material;
- e. forming at least one inflatable channel in the overlapped portion of the first and second layers of fusible material; and
- f. expanding the inflatable channel and fixing the material forming the inflatable channel while the channel is in an expanded state.

19-28. (Canceled)

29. (Currently amended) ~~The A method of claim 19~~ for manufacturing an endovascular graft, or section thereof, comprising:

a. disposing a first layer of fusible material and at least one additional layer of fusible material onto a shape forming member such that at least a portion of the first and second layers is overlapped, forming an overlapped portion; and

b. selectively fusing the layers of fusible material together in a seam to form at least one inflatable channel in the overlapped portion of the first and additional layers of fusible material;

wherein the shape forming member comprises a cylindrical mandrel and wherein the first layer and the at least one additional layer of fusible material are disposed onto the mandrel by wrapping the layers thereabouts.

30. (Currently amended) ~~The A method of claim 19~~ for manufacturing an endovascular graft, or section thereof, comprising:

a. disposing a first layer of fusible material and at least one additional layer of fusible material onto a shape forming member such that at least a portion of the first and second layers is overlapped, forming an overlapped portion; and

b. selectively fusing the layers of fusible material together in a seam to form at least one inflatable channel in the overlapped portion of the first and additional layers of fusible material;

wherein the shape forming member comprises a mandrel, wherein the first layer and the at least one additional layer of fusible material are disposed onto the mandrel by wrapping the layers thereabout, and wherein the mandrel comprises a first end section, a second end section and a middle section disposed between the first end section, the middle section having transverse dimension less than a transverse dimension of the first or second end sections.

31-33. (Canceled)

34. (Currently amended) ~~The A method of claim 19~~ for manufacturing an endovascular graft, or section thereof, comprising:

a. disposing a first layer of fusible material and at least one additional layer of fusible material onto a shape forming member such that at least a portion of the first and second layers is overlapped, forming an overlapped portion; and

b. selectively fusing the layers of fusible material together in at least two seams to form at least one inflatable channel in the overlapped portion of the first and additional layers of fusible material;

wherein the inflatable channel is expanded by internal pressure after being formed; and

wherein a pressure line configured to deliver fluid is inserted between the first and second layers of fusible material, the pressure line comprises comprising a tubular member configured to be disposed between the first and second layers of fusible material, the tubular member comprising a plurality of apertures whose cross sections increase in size distally along the tubular member.

35-49. (Canceled)